Our nation and our world became increasingly complex in the post-Vietnam War Era. A “good versus evil” narrative had comprised much of our 20th century history. This understanding of our role in the world was questioned by our involvement in Vietnam, and faith in our political and economic institutions would never be the same. The role of the U.S. in global affairs became much more complicated as the Cold War morphed into the War on Terror near the birth of the 21st century. You and a partner will illustrate these complexities by telling a story selected from the options below:

* Israeli/Palestinian Conflict
* Energy Crisis
* Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan
* Iran Hostage Crisis
* Reaganomics
* New Right Coalition
* Iran-Contra Affair
* Fall of the USSR
* Persian Gulf War
* Interventions in Somalia and Bosnia
* al-Qaeda attacks
* Economic Globalization
* Campaign Finance Reform
* *Gore v. Bush* (2000)
* Graying of America
* Education Reform
* Iraq War
* Nuclear Proliferation

You will produce a documentary that describes the historical background, key actors, outcomes, and long-term impacts of your chosen topic. You may take a perspective and formulate an opinion on the events that unfold, but only after presenting an even-handed account for your audience. Your documentary should end with thoughtful questions for your audience to consider and resources for more information.

You will use iMovie or other moviemaking software to produce your short film. Be sure to include a wide array of historical images, and use the “Ken Burns effect” to create enough technical variety to hold your audience’s attention. Narration should be uniform without the use of voice-over software that sounds computerized. Do not record narration at school where background noise can interfere with the quality. Be sure to include music editing that is appropriate for your topic and effectively holds attention without being distracting.

Feel free to use creative license for storytelling effect, but make sure your end result is comprehensive and has a logical flow that *teaches* your audience about your topic.